

# Unrestricted Schedule 8 Medicine Prescriptions PPHC Remote Information

Medical practitioners need to be familiar with the relevant provisions in the Northern Territory [Medicines, Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Act \(MPTGA\) and Regulations](#) and the Code of Practice – Schedule 8 Substances: [Volume 1 - Issuing Prescriptions Supplying Schedule 8 Substances](#) when providing clinical services related to Schedule 8 (S8) Medicines. Further information on specific aspects of prescribing S8 Medicines can be found on the [Poisons Control – Medical Practitioners](#) website. This site includes relevant forms and some information for clients.

The following table provides a summary of the legislative requirements for the supply of the **Unrestricted Schedule 8 Medicines** used in remote health centres, such as:

- Alprazolam
- Buprenorphine patches and tablets for pain treatment
- Codeine (single active)
- Fentanyl
- Flunitrazepam
- Hydromorphone
- Ketamine
- Methadone tablets
- Morphine
- Oxycodone
- Pethidine
- Tapentadol

Content of Prescriptions	Requirements	Electronic Health Records (EHR) <sup>1</sup>
<b>Medical Practitioner Details:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Name</li> <li>- Professional Qualifications</li> <li>- Address and phone number of work location</li> <li>- Signature (or authorised electronic representation)</li> </ul>	<i>Note: The Medical Practitioner will need to sign the rural prescription and when applicable the PBS prescription, generated by the EHR.</i>
<b>Client Details:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Name</li> <li>- Address</li> <li>- Date of Birth</li> </ul>	
<b>Medicine Details:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Name of medicine</li> <li>- Dose, form and strength of medicine</li> <li>- Directions for administering the medicine</li> </ul>	
<b>Supply Details:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Quantity in words and numbers, eg Sixty (60) tablets (Note: not more than one month's supply can be requested at any one time)</li> <li>- Start date for supply if different from the date of prescribing</li> </ul> <p><b>When Medicine is to be Re-Supplied from the original Prescription (Repeat Prescription):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Quantity of re-supply</li> <li>- Time to elapse before re-supply (minimum repeat interval)</li> </ul>	<i>Note: The Medical Practitioner will need to manually (either typed or handwritten) enter all supply details onto the rural prescription and when applicable the PBS prescription, generated by the EHR.</i>
<b>Prescription Requirements:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Date of prescription</li> <li>- Must be written in ink or produced on a printer</li> <li>- Prescriptions are valid for a maximum of SIX months</li> <li>- Prescriptions for other medicines must not be written on the same prescription</li> </ul>	

Reference: [Requirements of Prescriptions for S8 Substances](#). Also see Atlas items: [Prescriptions](#) and [Schedule 8 and Restricted Schedule 4 Medicines PPHC Remote Guideline](#). Note: the Information Sheet – [Restricted Schedule 8 Medicine Prescriptions](#) provides information on prescriptions for RS8 medicines: Dexamphetamine, Methylphenidate and Lisdexamfetamine.

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<sup>1</sup> Note: unless otherwise stated, this information will be automatically populated in EHR generated Rural Prescriptions and PBS Prescriptions.